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LETTER DATED 7 SEPTEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In the face of the latest appeal of the Security Council contained in the statement by the President of 2 September 1994 (S/PRST/1994/50), the Serbian occupation forces continue their campaign of ethnic cleansing, torture, murder and forced labour concentration camps in the region of Bijeljina. Further refuting the Security Council, the Serbian occupation authorities continue to deny the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and other international agencies access to the forced labour concentration camps at Lopare, Piperi, Mejevica and other places.

According to Red Cross officials, the latest campaign has resulted in 800 Bosniacs, mostly women, children and the elderly, being cleansed while countless younger individuals were imprisoned in the camps. This was preceded by 400 Gypsies, Croats, and Bosniacs being ethnically cleansed from Banja Luka, which the Special Representative of the Secretary-General still has not been allowed to visit as mandated by previous agreement and the Presidential statement of 2 September 1994.

To quote an ICRC official, the ICRC has "exhausted every avenue we had. Nothing has changed". In view of the systematic nature of these violations of international humanitarian law, the immediate threat to many lives and the fact the previous appeals of the Security Council are being totally disregarded, we request that the Council urgently consider further measures to compel compliance with its resolutions, the Geneva Conventions and, most specifically, the Presidential statement of 2 September 1994.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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